



L O N D O N,

Printed by Simon

Stafford, for Richard Bun-
nian, and are to be sold at the
signe of the red Lion vpon
London Bridge.

1609.





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RANGE NEWES

of a prodigious Monster, borne in the
Township of Adlington in the Parish of Standish
in the Countie of Lancaster, the 17. day of Aprill
last, 1613.

Testified by the Reuerend Diuine Mr. W. LEIGH, Bachelor of
Diuinitie, and Preacher of Gods word at Standish aforesaid.



Printed by I. P. for S. M. and are to be sold at his Shop in Pauls
Church-yard at the Signe of the Ball. 1613.

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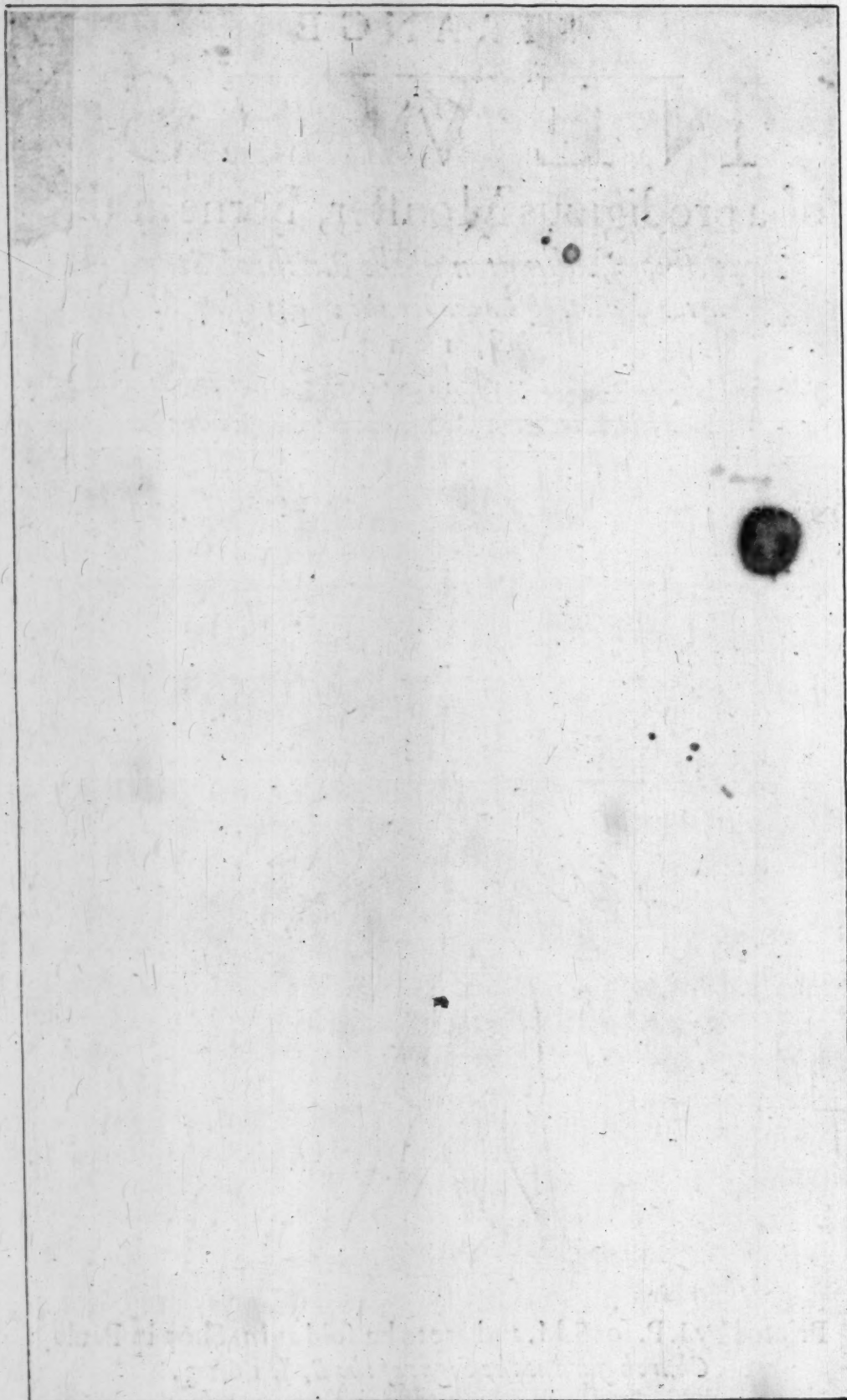
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STRANGE NEWES
 of a prodigious Monster, borne in
the Towneship of Adlington, in the Pa-
rish of Standish, in the Countie of
 LANCASTER.



At the first losing
 of his Innocencie, lost
 also his place, and con-
 tracted a heavy curse
 both to himselve, and
 to his posteritie. The
 Earth it selfe innocent
 of his crime was ac-
 curst for his sake, for
 whome it was created, and brought forth
 thornes, byers, and stinking weedes, where
 before it was full of pleasure, and delight, and
 so had continued, if man had continued in his
 first creation: Now the Earth brought forth
 Monsters and ougly shapes, strange, and
 full of terror: The heauens them selues
 changed the frame of their beautie, putting
 forth fiery meteors, blazing comets, and o-
 ther prodigious sights, breeding wonder and

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amazement : Nature suffering violence by sinne peruerthed her order, producing strange birthes in preposterous shapes, and all grew out of frame, and sinne being the cause of all, brought forth the effects of all : which seruing as punishments betwixt the Justice of God, and the vnrightheousnesse of Man hath neuerthelesse but corrected, not rectified Man, that continuing in sinne, findes the continuance of punishment, and yet with obdurate heart, growes from bad to worse, getting by Custom an incorrigible habit of sinning.

All Creatures but Man, haue continued in the kinde and nature of the first Creation ; The Sunne, the Moone, the Starres, and euery Planet in his seuerall orbe or Sphere, haue continued their order to the glory of their Creator, euer since the day of their first Creation. The fowles, beasts, and fishes in the Ayre, Earth, and Sea, and euery other vnsensible Creature haue continued in their kinde, to the glory of their great Maker ; Only Man, miserable Man, wretched Man, whom God hath made according to his owne Image, and hath indued with reason and vnderstanding, onely he degenerates, committing sinnes, haynous, and detestable in the sight of his Creator, which doth many times so incense the wrath of the most high God against vs, that Ayre, Earth, and Sea, doe many times produce Monsters of ougly and most horrid shapes, to signifie vn-
to

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to vs the ouglinesse of sinne in the eyes of that pure essence. Neuer was the world so wicked as it is now; for it thymes in ill, as it decays in Age. It is the worst world (saith an old Man) that euer was, and the best that euer will be. No maruell if Nature grow out of kinde in the procreation of children, when men vn-naturally goe out of kynde in the Actes of sinning. Forbidden sinnes are most of all practised, and sinnes committed that are not to be named: So deepe hath Mans iniquity descended, that it hath brought mishapen formes and deuises out of hell, and it hath againe soared so high, that it hath brought downe vengeance from heauen.

This causeth the Earth to bring forth prodigious Monsters, so farre from the faire frame of Nature, that they make Nature herselfe afraid to looke vpon them, in whom shee findes her lawes and order to haue beene violated. Neuer Countrey hath brought forth more, then this of England, and that of late yeeres, which haue beene so prodigious, that they haue brought horroz to the looker on, and haue also proued certaine predictions, foregoing many notable euents. The Sea cast forth an horrid Monster of a strange shape and bignesse, vpon the Coast of Cornewall, in the beginning of that fatall yeere Eighty Eight, when the Spanish fleete soone after frighted England with a dangerous Inuasion, euen to the vtter extir-

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pation of the English name out of this Land, had not Almighty God with his high hand of grace and glozy made preuention, returning the Spanish purposes vpon them selues. The Island of Lecale in Ireland within the County of Downe, produced an hidious Monster, bearing the shape both of a Man and a beast, whose eyes sparkling like fyre, and his voyce sounding harsh and shrill, farre from the common strayne, gaue certaine foresignifications of those troubles that the peere following beganne to vexe both the kingdomes of England and Ireland, in that fearefull yet memorabile warre of Tyrone, that in few peeres after prouided so fatall to both Nations, that it brought wretchednesse not onely to the people then liuing, but hath also prepared misery for the Child yet vnborne, as is too well knowne by the miserable Death and slaughter, not onely of the common sort of people, but also by the lamentable ouerthrowes and slaughters of many great, and honorable Personages, famous in blood and quality, that by that vnlucky warre, and other fatall accidents depending thereupon, found vtter ruine, and destruction, not onely to the incessant grieffe of their owne particular families, and dependancies, but also to the generall losse & sorrow of all the English Nation: which warre, monstrous warre, (for so I may call it) when the body against the head, the subject against the Prince shall rebelliously conspire,

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spire, God neuer gaue vnto the world a more memorabile example, either in what basirety stands the state of any Name, or Nation, or what vnhappy successe followes such vnnaturall attempts, or finally what end followes such bloody, and despiteous cruelty, as both the head and principall members of that Irish faction, that bloody, and horrid warre, doe at this day endure, as appeareth in the present state, and condition of the Originall of that monstrous warre, bloody Tyrone himselfe, and other his Associates, who hauing made by their Attaynders, forfeitures, and confiscations both of lands and goods, doe now wander vp and downe Spayne, Italy, and other Countreyes, poore, forsaken, wretched, miserable, and hated of all the world.

There was another Monster produced in Antwerpe with foure hands and Armes, two heads, and two bodie, ioynd in one backe, not much vnlike to this Monster, wee are now to write of; and this happened in the yeare foregoing the beginning of those troubles of the low Countreyes, which the matchlesse cruelty of Rome and Spayne, hath plagued with vnspeakeable miseries. But aboue all, that hideous monster bred in Russia not aboue fuyeeeres since with thzee paire of hands, foreshignifying that miserable warre that since hath happened, betwixt the thzee kingdomes, Russia (otherwise called Muscouia) Poland, and Swethland, vnder
the

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the Raignes of Demetrius, Emperoz of Russia, Sigismond King of Poland, and Charles King of Swethland, the same whereof will neuer dye, so long as the memory of those kingdomes states endure.

It is credibly reported that neere Lirpoole in Lancashire, about a Tweluemoneth since a childe was bozne, both monstirous in shape, and strange in accident; It is fresh in memory, though it lined not aboue thzee dayes. But I stay too long in matters, though extrauagant yet not impertinent to our present discourse, where I am to deliuer as strange a producement of a prodigious birth, as was euer knowne in this part of the world; and this happened but of late, at a Towne called Adlington in the Parish of Standith neere Wigon in the County of Lancaster; where there was a childe bozne of a strange and wonderfull shape, with foure legges foure Armes, two bellies, proportionably ioyned to one back, one head two faces, like double faced Ianus, the one before, the other behinde, foure eyes, and two noses. It behoues vs to looke about, when such examples beyond the order of Nature are brought forth to put vs in minde of our iniquities, especially the sinnes of Adultery and fornication, which are euer iustly punished by the righteous lawe and iustice of God. euen vpon the Childzens children vnto the thirde and fourth generation of them that hate him, who also shewes mercy vnto thousands

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thousands, in them that loue him, and keepe his commandements, which is well proued in the grace, and blessing that Almighty God secretly infundeth in right generation, the contrary whereof is knowne in the curse that he denounceth against Bastardy, which the Prophet vtters in these wordes, *Spuria vitulina non agent radices altas.* Bastard slippes shall neuer take deepe roote: which was shewne in the example of this Monster, the father and mother whereof were both branded, shee with the marke of Bastardy, and from her Parents crimes in Adultery, indured this punishment: he of very lewde carriage and conditions: neither was this monster borne in the night time, but towards the day, when the morning Sunne beganne to glad the earth with his brightnesse, to this end, that the blacke mantle of the night should not couer this childe of darkenesse, but that the day might plainly discouer to all eyes this wonderfull example of his Justice.

Certaine Gentlemen, and many of the common people, that were then at Cockpit, when the newes came of this prodigious birth, left their sports and went to behold it with wonder and amazement. Many people came flocking from all places thereunto adioyning, who beheld it with astonishment. The most impious of all could not but confesse, that it was a notable example of Gods fearefull wrath, which God for his mercy sake turne from vs. This
B
happened

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happened a little before Easter Terme last vpon relation of some of the Inhabitants there, Master William Leigh Bachelour of Diuinity, a very worthy and Reuerend gentleman, Preacher of the Parish of Standish aforesaid, being also an eye witnesse of the same.

Thus haue you a true relation of this prodigious birth, testified by the generall report, (besides the particular mentions) of that Countrey. The consideration whereof I leaue to the godly disposed, whether as a punishment of sinnes and offences past, or as a true foresignification of some notable euent to follow in succeeding times, or both. Onely thus much, when Nature is thus violated through the Corruption, there commonly fall out many strange and vheard of actions, either for the time present, or to come, such as hath amazed the world to looke vpon, as in that memorable and euer to be adored Passion of our Saniour, where after his bloody sufferings in his body, and the heavy expiration of his Soule, the vaile of the Temple rent in sunder from the top to the bottom, the Sunne without any natural cause lost his light, and there was a sodayne Darkenesse ouer all the Land, the graues opened and rendered forth their dead, who appeared in the holy City vnto many. In the same day and yeare the Pantheon in Rome, which was the Temple of the Romane Gods, sodaynely fell, and one cryed out in a Prophetical manner, that either the
frame

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frame of the world was at that time to be broken, or the God of Nature suffered violence.

Let vs once more cast backe our eyes vpon the wondrous of this misshapen monster (the cause of this Treatise) the report whereof not giuing full satisfaction to some people that were incredulous of it, vnles they might be made also eye witnesses of such an vnheard of accident: the graue was opened againe wherein it had been buried, and the body layde to the view of a great number of beholders: which were at the least fve hundred, that not onely beare a bare report, but can also giue true Testimony of this occurrent to their much wonder, and admiration.

Yet these monstrous and prodigious birthes aswell of other Countreies as our owne, are not greatly to be maruelled at, if we look but onely into the causes of them, which for the most part are our sinnes, and carelesse negligences: And they are not slightly to be accounted off, because they seldome fall out alone, without some other strange euent, but are ominous foregoers of some worse evils to follow. The Circle of misery which hath for many years been drawne about vs, is large, the lynies of it are not yet closed, the perfect content thereof cannot be fully knowne, till it please that hand (that first moulded the globe of the world, and which setteth downe in numbers, and propoztion, the state of

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kingdomes) to throw away the rod, that it hath so long held ouer vs, to correct, nay rather to draw blood of vs. Yet all these worke not in vs the effects of our amendment, but that we still wallow in the myze of our wonted wickednesse. The foure Elements of Earth, Water, Ayre, and Fyre, haue seuerally commenced their warres against vs: Ayre hath breathed forth pestiferous fumes to choake vs, shee hath burst open the Cloudes of Infection, and hath powdered sicknesse vpon our heads. Water (like Egyptian Grasshoppers) hath often couered our Cornefields, and eaten vp the fruites of the Earth; whilst the Earth by that misery hath closed vp her wombe, nothing being promised by her (that hath alwayes beene so plentiful to her Childzen) but barrennesse. Fire hath also had his seuerall dayes of triumph to increase in vs our sorrowes, and to shew vnto vs Gods wrath and displeasure against vs for our iniquities. So that all that is aboue vs, and all that is vnder our fete, haue conspired to worke our overthrow, or to cause our amendment. These Creatures, which in the first, and great Parliament of our Creation, were appointed to be our Comforters, haue beene many times sent forth and armed with Celestiall weapons to be our Destroyers.

Besides these inflictions, which Tyme (occasioning mens sorrowes and great losses) hath brought forth, there haue beene also many misfortunes

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fortunes in the prodigious portraictures of the like misshapen Creatures: which who can behold without trembling? or if hee behold, not shed teares in abundance to thinke vpon Gods heauy indignation against vs? The causes of his iust quarrell with vs, are writ vpon euery mans forehead, the defiance is in our lips, the maintenance of it in our hearts; the end of it (vnllesse we suddenly repent, and amend,) wil bee dangerous wounds in our soules.

There is yet a meanes to be made for reconciliation, the first borne of the great King of heauen and earth, goes betwene his father and vs as mediator to worke our peace and attonement: It may easily be brought to passe and take effect, if we would but vtterly shake of a bad and base company of vgly and detestable sinnes, that hang vpon euery one of vs: If we doe not, let vs bee well assured, that these fatherly menaces, will bee turned into causes of greater mournings, and these friendly chastisements and beatings, will be changed into blowes not to be indured, to the taking away of our liues for euer.

The Earth that hath yet but begunne to shrink vpon her nerues, and to hide a handfull of her blessings, will open her veynes to swallow vpon the memory of them. The water that hath gone about but to drowne a few, will be instrument of generall shipwackes. The Ayre will in surphureous flakes drop downe all on

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fire, and that Fyre bying the woold to a consump-
tion not to be restored. Hea and these Mon-
strous birthes which as yet the Earth con-
taines in hir wombe, shall at length be deliuered
by her, and produced as witnesses against vs of
our hardnesse of heart, and obduracy, and of our
carelesse negligence and slacknesse of amend-
ment. The Nature therefore of the disease be-
ing knowne, and the Physicall remedy heard, be
Councelled, take what is ministred (so long
as you finde it wholesome) and grow strong
both to your body, and your
soules comfort.

FINIS.





IN Hassia Germaniae
 haud ignobili ac Euan-
 gelica doctrina potissimū
 nobilitata prouincia, Vui-
 tzenhausiae tertio post fes-
 tum trium Regū die, in-
 fans masculus biceps, colo-
 re duplici, duobus capitibus,
 ac corpore optime cū
 reliquis membris compa-
 cto natus est.